

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 588 and 589. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both amendments.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT JOSEPH MORRIS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the late Robert Morris, a respected outdoorsman, engineer, and passionate advocate for the protection of the Trinity Alps Wilderness.

Robert Morris was born in Weaverville, California, on January 4, 1935, a descendent of pioneer families who came to Trinity County during the state's Gold Rush. After graduating from high school in Weaverville, he attended Stanford University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in engineering. From there, Robert earned a master's degree in engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He returned to Stanford for his Ph. D. and worked with laser science and technology pioneer Anthony Siegman on the development of masers and their relationship to quantum physics.

Robert Morris' heart was always in the mountains surrounding his hometown. On a pack trip in 1962, he met his wife-to-be, Susanne Twhight, whom he married in 1963. The couple moved to Weaverville in 1964, and Robert worked as a manager for The Western Telephone Co. He became president of the company after then-president Gil Snyder died unexpectedly. He also volunteered with the Trinity County Historical Society and began restoring the old Lower Waldorff Ranch, where two children were raised.

When the Wilderness Bill passed Congress in 1964, Robert Morris saw an opportunity to re-designate the then-Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area as a wilderness. For the next 20 years, Robert organized supporters to map and plan the boundaries of the Trinity Alps proposed wilderness and began lobbying Congress. In 1982, the U.S. House Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks held a public hearing in the Trinity High School gym, followed by a helicopter tour of the Trinity Alps for Members of Congress that he led. On September 28, 1984, Congress passed—and President Ronald Reagan signed—the bill to designate the Trinity Alps Wilderness. The importance of Morris' efforts to protect this incredible landscape cannot be overstated.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Morris was a pioneer in conservation whose education and passion

has enriched the community where he was raised. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of his tremendous achievements and contributions to Northern California.

RECOGNITION OF THE 48TH RESCUE SQUADRON AT DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Airmen of the 48th Rescue Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

On Oct. 29, 2013, eight Airmen of the 48th Rescue Squadron were on their way back from training in Eloy, Arizona when they came upon a 19-vehicle collision on Interstate 10 near Picacho Peak. Showing little regard for their own safety, the Airmen immediately went into action providing first aid to the wounded and assistance to law enforcement officers on the scene. Despite the danger from leaking fuel, the Airmen remained at the site of the accident extricating passengers and providing care for more than 20 injured motorists before emergency medical services arrived.

These brave Airmen embody the qualities that make our military great—selfless service, initiative and personal courage. Without hesitation, they put their own lives at risk to rescue strangers in need of assistance. They were not asked to put themselves in harm's way, but they saw an immediate need and stepped up to action.

As a nation, we should all feel a little prouder knowing of the heroic actions on October 29th and that these actions were not isolated events. Rather, the Airmen of the 48th Rescue Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base commit themselves daily to going into harm's way to come to the aid of downed pilots—sometimes at great personal risk. Since their inception, Air Force combat search and rescue squadrons have performed a core function of emergency rescue, easing the minds of pilots flying into harm's way. These pilots know that should something happen to them or their aircraft, there is a dedicated cadre of Airmen to find them and lend aid regardless of the danger.

I am thankful for these eight courageous Americans and am proud that they represent the Air Force, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and Southern Arizona.

HONORING AUDIE MURPHY, TEXAS LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our nation's greatest war he-

roes, Audie Murphy. Major Murphy, who hailed from the Fourth District of Texas, was an extraordinary man in many ways. Initially turned away by several branches of the United States Armed Services due to his young age and slight build, Audie Murphy's patriotism led him to lie about his age in order to serve and defend his country. This patriotism and his unusual valor in combat led him to distinction as the most decorated hero of World War II, earning every U.S. military combat award for valor available from the U.S. Army, including the Medal of Honor, two Silver Stars, three Purple Hearts, and the Distinguished Service Cross. It is therefore fitting, though belated, that Major Murphy was posthumously awarded Texas' highest military honor—the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor—on October 29, 2013.

Major Murphy earned his first Medal of Honor for his valor on January 26, 1945 near Holtzwihr, France. Six tanks and waves of Nazi infantry attacked his Company B, but Second Lieutenant Murphy remained at his command post throughout the fierce fighting. Although he suffered a leg wound, he continued to fight for more than an hour until his ammunition was exhausted and the enemy was in retreat.

Audie Murphy did not stop where most men would on the battlefield or in life. In fact, he lived out the remainder of his years after the war as an accredited writer, actor, and songwriter. His book, *To Hell and Back*, became a national best seller, and the movie made from his book was Universal Studio's biggest hit in its 43-year history, where it stood as their highest-grossing movie for twenty years. He was, by all accounts, an outstanding American and legend in his own time.

That being said, it should be noted that he was also a man of deep modesty who considered himself "just another man." He fought not because he loved war—in fact, he wrote of "a war where hell is six feet deep"—but because he loved the values and freedoms we enjoy in America, and he felt compelled to do his duty for his country. He represents some of the greatest qualities of a hero including: an unfailing sense of duty, a strong sense of patriotism, and a degree of modesty that recognizes the humble roots of this great country.

We remember Audie Murphy because of his outstanding feats, but also because he remains perhaps one of the truest examples of what it means to be American. He rose to greatness not only because he was remarkable, himself—though he wouldn't admit it—but because of the remarkable respect and love he held for his fellow Americans at home.

I was proud to ride in many veterans parades with Audie and was pleased to know him as a personal friend. I also met his sisters—he was always loyal to his family and found time for them.

As the representative for the Fourth District of Texas, I know we are proud to call Audie Murphy's home our home as well, and we are pleased the Great State of Texas has given Major Murphy due recognition for his outstanding service to our country by awarding

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